

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present After-Final Amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application and does not require further search.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 12-21, which are independent, are hereby amended. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. § 112. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 101, § 102, § 103, or § 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,181,870 to Okada, et al. in view of Laid Open Patent Application H3-136485 to Yasue.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...encoding means for encoding video data in a group structure of a plurality of frames by performing a compression-encoding process which is a combination of an inter-frame predictive encoding process and a motion compensative process;

transforming means for transforming the data structure of encoded video data that is output from said encoding means into a file structure; and

recording means for recording said transformed encoded video data to a record medium,

wherein said transforming means transforms the data structure of said encoded video data into said file structure which contains a first data unit which corresponds to a predetermined number of frames of said encoded video data outputted from said encoding means, and a second data unit which consists of a plurality of said first data units, and

wherein said recording means records said transformed encoded video data so that the encoded video data of said second data unit is recorded on a successive location of said record medium.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,181,870 to Okada, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Okada”) relates to an optical disc having an area for storing original and user chain information specifying at least part of a video object stored on the disc, and a computer program and recording apparatus for recording and editing the chain information.

As understood by Applicants, Laid Open Patent Application H3-136485 to Yasue. (hereinafter, merely “Yasue”) relates to a video disk system having secondary information in addition to primary information and having means to prohibit skipping mode during replay of secondary information.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Okada or Yasue, taken alone or in combination, that would disclose or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that Okada does not teach or suggest encoding means for encoding video data in a group structure of a plurality of frames by performing a compression-encoding process which is a combination of an inter-frame predictive encoding process and a

motion compensative process, transforming means for transforming the data structure of encoded video data that is output from said encoding means into a file structure, and recording means for recording said transformed encoded video data to a record medium, said transforming means transforms the data structure of said encoded video data into said file structure which contains a first data unit which corresponds to a predetermined number of frames of said encoded video data outputted from said encoding means, and a second data unit which consists of a plurality of said first data units, and said recording means records said transformed encoded video data so that the encoded video data of said second data unit is recorded on a successive location of said record medium, as disclosed in independent claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reason similar, or somewhat similar, to those described above, independent claims 2, 4-6 and 12-21 are also believed to be patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent on a dependent claim discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

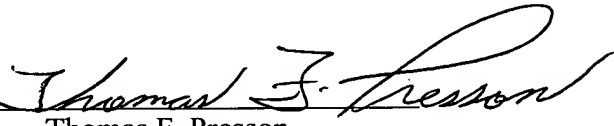
CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any
overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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